

Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 H-02 ISO-00 SS-15 OC-05 CCO-00 SSO-00 /030 R

DRAFTED BY EB/ORF/FSE:WRILEY:CH

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S/S - MR. ORTIZ

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TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 206303 TOSEC 100311

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: ECON, ENRG

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: REQUEST FROM SENATOR
SPARKMAN ON BEHALF OF SENATOR CASE TO DECLASSIFY YOUR
IEP TESTIMONY ON OIL ALLOCATION (S/S -7517122)

TO THE SECRETARY FROM EB - THOMAS O. ENDERS

1. SENATOR SPARKMAN, CHAIRMAN FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE,
HAS REQUESTED ON BEHALF OF SENATOR CLIFFORD CASE DECLASSI-
FICATION AND RELEASE FOR PUBLIC USE OF PORTION OF YOUR
TESTIMONY IN EXECUTIVE SESSION ON MAY 6, 1975 DEALING WITH
ALLOCATION OF OIL BY THE IEA DURING AN EMERGENCY.

2. YOU WILL RECALL THAT CASE HAD RAISED AN APPARENT DIS-
CREPANCY IN THE MAY 6 TESTIMONY WHICH STATED THAT AS A
PRACTICAL MATTER THE IEP AGREEMENT DOES NOT INVOLVE ANY
SHARING OF US DOMESTIC PRODUCTION AND AN EARLIER SUBMISSION

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TO THE CONGRESS WHICH STATED THAT DOMESTIC PRODUCTION WAS

THEORETICALLY AVAILABLE FOR SHARING. YOUR LETTER OF

JULY 17 TO SENATOR CASE CLARIFIED THIS POINT.

3. RATHER THAN DENY THE REQUEST FOR DECLASSIFICATION UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT WE PROPOSE TO REPLY TO SENATOR SPARKMAN WITH LETTER ASKING THAT HE RECONSIDER HIS REQUEST BECAUSE OF PREJUDICIAL EFFECT RELEASE OF THIS

TESTIMONY WOULD HAVE ON OUR FUTURE NEGOTIATING POSTURE IN THE IEA. IF YOU PREFER, FORMAL DENIAL CAN BE MADE BUT THIS IS LIKELY TO RESULT IN APPEAL TO DEPARTMENT'S COUNCIL ON CLASSIFICATION POLICY AS FIRST STEP IN FOI ACT PROCEDURE TO GET ACCESS. TEXT OF LETTER FOLLOWS:

4. BEGIN TEXT.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN:

A. THE SECRETARY HAS ASKED ME TO REPLY TO YOUR LETTER OF AUGUST 14 WHICH REQUESTED THAT SEVERAL PAGES FROM THE TRANSCRIPT OF YOUR COMMITTEE'S EXECUTIVE SESSION ON THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAM BE DECLASSIFIED FOR RELEASE TO THE PUBLIC.

B. THE SECRETARY'S TESTIMONY ON THE WORKINGS OF THE IEP AND HIS SUBSEQUENT LETTER TO SENATOR CASE ON JULY 17 ELABORATING THESE POINTS INDICATED THAT AS A PRACTICAL MATTER THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT HAVE TO SHARE ITS DOMESTICALLY PRODUCED OIL WITH OTHER IEA PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES. THE CLEAR NET BENEFIT IN THE IEA AGREEMENT IS IN FAVOR OF THE UNITED STATES.

C. IT WOULD BE HARMFUL TO US FOREIGN POLICY INTERESTS, ESPECIALLY WITH OTHER IEA MEMBER NATIONS, IF WE WERE TO PUBLICLY ADVERTISE OUR SATISFACTION TOO LOUDLY. DWELLING ON THE BENEFITS OF THE IEA AGREEMENT FOR THE UNITED STATES WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO OUR CURRENT EFFORTS TO SECURE FURTHER COOPERATION FROM OUR PARTNERS IN BUILDING AN EFFECTIVE CONSUMER ORGANIZATION.

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D. IN THE INTEREST OF MAINTAINING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR FOREIGN POLICY INITIATIVES IN THE ENERGY AREA, I WOULD ASK THAT YOU RECONSIDER YOUR REQUEST FOR THE RELEASE OF THIS TESTIMONY. I HOPE THAT WE WILL BE ABLE TO ASSIST SENATOR CASE IN SOME WAY WITHOUT DECLASSIFYING THE TESTIMONY AT THIS TIME.

SINCERELY,

THOMAS O. ENDERS
ASSISTANT SECRETARY

END TEXT.

5. RECOMMENDATION: THAT YOU APPROVE TRANSMITTAL OF
ATTACHED LETTER.

APPROVE DISAPPROVE INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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